

states in some areas. And I think we would like to see some additional pressure put on. This is a mechanism for putting on some additional pressure, but it is a mechanism that I think should be viewed with a ton of scrutiny and a ton of skepticism. And I think we ought to be very careful about how we do it, and I think we are being careful here. I'm really pleased to see the concern coming from both the left and the right about the Constitution. But at the same time we have to understand that something brand new like this is going to be uncertain in several respects, including many of the procedural respects. It's unfortunate that the organizers of it haven't, I think, put more time into it at the beginning so that they could tell us what it is that they intend to do and can tell us the limitations of their organization and their effort. But, Senator Withem, if I could ask you as one of the sponsors of the resolution, we've now rejected the Chambers amendment, but we are sending a delegation to this Conference of the States, whatever that means. How...for what period of time are these people authorized to act on behalf of the State of Nebraska as far as your intent under this resolution is concerned? You know, I've thought of putting up a...

SPEAKER WITHEM: I would say as long as the pro...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...an amendment that says the authority to act, of the delegation, shall terminate pursuant to this resolution. The authority to act shall terminate as of a date specific, blank, blank 19 blank, so that we know when the conference ends as far as any authority from this body is concerned. And if we want to renew it, or if we like what's happening, we like the way it's structured, we do this again and we give it the green light and we do it with more certain knowledge of the playing field and of how we fit into that playing field as a small state. Do you think we need to do that, or can we just leave it open? And if we do leave it open, what is the authority that we're giving this delegation?

SPEAKER WITHEM: I think we're giving...my opinion and Senator Kristensen's here, I think we're giving this delegation the authority to participate, represent the State of Nebraska at The Conference of the States for the purposes described in Section 2, then it describes here...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: One minute.